

ATTACHMENT D

July 13, 2010
mtg. - submit for
record

Good afternoon,

There are a couple of points I would like to make regarding the issue of NSP.

Over the past few years the Governor and Director have made several attempts to close NSP. Each time, so far, they have failed. Each time a different reason was given for justifying the closure. First it was because NSP is too expensive and had to close to save the State money. Next, as claimed in the State of the State address and in the Governors recent press release, NSP is too old and unsafe. Now, at the last Prison Board meeting the Director was saying it needed to close to help staff other prisons in order to cover furloughs. With the reasons for closure continually changing to fit what the situation is at the time, the reasons begin to seem more like excuses. This tends to bring the true motive for closure under suspicion.

Furloughs are supposed to be a temporary solution to a fiscal crisis. There is no expectation of furloughs becoming a permanent way of operating the State of Nevada. If the situation becomes so dire that they cannot be halted there will be other solutions brought forth. Furloughs are not intended to be permanent. However, closing NSP WOULD be permanent. There is no expectation of bringing it back into operation after it closes. Once it is gone, its gone. Closing NSP to cover furloughs would be using a permanent solution to ease a temporary situation.

To sum it up, there is reason to question the motives for closure and question the logic of closing a major institution. Making the wrong decision now could be a regrettable mistake.

I suggest holding off on the issue of closing NSP until our next Governor takes office and the new legislature is in session.

Thank you,

C/O Curt Thomas